

# AL-WALA WAL-BARA

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# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

All praise belongs to Allah, the ally of the *muminin* (believers). And may the *salah* and *salam* [of Allah] be upon the Messenger of Allah, who was appointed over the *sadiqin* (truthful ones) and upon those who walked upon his way in having *bara* (disavowal) from the *kafirin*. As for what follows:

Indeed, *al-wala wal-bara* (allegiance and disavowal) is a noble principle from the principles of Islam and a pillar from its pillars. A person's Islam cannot be upright until he allies for the sake of Allah and has enmity for the sake of Allah, and allies with the people of truth and has enmity for the people of falsehood. *Wala* and *bara* is a condition for the correctness of *iman*, as He (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) said:

تَرَى كَثِيرًا مِنْهُمْ يَتَوَلَّونَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَلَا يُنِسَنَ مَا قَدَّمْتُ لَهُمْ أَنْفُسُهُمْ  
أَنْ سَخَطَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ وَفِي الْعَذَابِ هُمْ خَالِدُونَ. وَلَوْ كَانُوا يُؤْمِنُونَ  
بِاللَّهِ وَالنَّبِيِّ وَمَا أُنزَلَ إِلَيْهِ مَا اتَّخَذُوهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءَ وَلَكِنَّ كَثِيرًا مِنْهُمْ  
فَاسِقُونَ

“You see many of them taking the disbelievers as their protectors and helpers. Evil indeed is that which their own selves have sent forward before them, for that, Allah’s wrath fell upon them and in torment they will abide forever. And had they believed in Allah, and in the Prophet and in what has been revealed to him, never would they have taken them (i.e., the disbelievers) as protectors and helpers, but many of them are *al-fasiqun* (disobedient disbelievers).”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Surah al-Maidah: 80-1.

## Al-Wala:

*Wilayah* is support, love, honor, and respect, in public and in secret, for those loved by one. Allah (*ta’ala*) said:

اللَّهُ وَلِيُّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا يُخْرِجُهُمْ مِنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا  
أَوْلَيَاوْهُمُ الظَّاغُوتُ يُخْرِجُونَهُمْ مِنَ النُّورِ إِلَى الظُّلُمَاتِ

“Allah is the *wali* of those who believe. He brings them out from darkness into light. But as for those who disbelieve, their allies is the *taghut*, they bring them out from light into darkness.”<sup>2</sup>

*Wala* is not for anyone except Allah (*ta’ala*), for His messenger (*sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*), and for the believers. He (*subhanahu*) said:

إِنَّمَا وَلِيُّكُمُ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ وَالَّذِينَ يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُونَ  
الزَّكَوةَ وَهُمْ رَاكِعُونَ . وَمَنْ يَتَوَلَّ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا فَإِنَّ حِزْبَ  
اللَّهِ هُمُ الْغَالِبُونَ

“Verily, your *wali* is Allah, His messenger, and the believers - those who perform *salah*, give *zakah*, and bow down. And whosoever takes Allah, His messenger, and those who have believed, as allies, then the party of Allah will be the victorious.”<sup>3</sup>

Thus *wala* towards the believers is by loving them because of their *iman*, supporting them, advising them, making *du‘a* for them, staying with them and being merciful towards them, removing harm from them, giving them the Islamic rights, and other than that, which enters into *al-wala*. Allah (*ta’ala*) said:

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<sup>2</sup> Surah al-Baqarah: 257.

<sup>3</sup> Surah al-Maidah: 55-6.

مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ وَالَّذِينَ مَعْهُ أَشِدَّاءُ عَلَى الْكُفَّارِ رُحْمَاءُ بَيْنَهُمْ

**“Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah, and those who are with him are severe against disbelievers and merciful among themselves.”<sup>4</sup>**

Therefore, the allegiance with the believers necessitates being close to them and showing love for them with statements, actions, and intentions; and it necessitates helping everyone acting on Islam with belief, statement, and action, defending his honor and wealth. So the foundation of allegiance is love, and the foundation of enmity is hatred. And from these two rises the actions of the hearts and limbs which enters into the reality of allegiance and enmity like support, befriending, cooperation, and like *jihad*, *hijrah*, and so on from actions that establish the reality of *wala*. And it is necessary for allegiance to Allah be from sincerity. He (*subhanahu wa ta’ala*) said:

قُلْ أَعَيْنَرَ اللَّهِ أَتَخْذُ وَلِيًّا فَاطِرِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَهُوَ يُطْعِمُ وَلَيُظْعَمُ قُلْ إِنِّي أُمِرْتُ أَنْ أَكُونَ أَوَّلَ مَنْ أَسْلَمَ وَلَا تَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ

**“Say: ‘Shall I take as a *wali* any other than Allah, the Creator of the heavens and the earth? And it is He who feeds but is not fed?’ Say: ‘Verily, I am commanded to be the first of those who submit themselves to Allah, and be not of the *mushrikun*.’ ”<sup>5</sup>**

So one does not ally for the sake of fame and wealth; allegiance is for the sake of Allah, the Exalted.

- Thus our allegiance is to whoever believes in Allah as his Lord, Islam as his *din*, and Muhammad (*sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) as his prophet.

<sup>4</sup> Surah al-Fath: 29.

<sup>5</sup> Surah al-An‘am: 14.

- Our allegiance is for the believer who worships Allah alone without ascribing a partner to Him and follows the Prophet in all of his statements and actions.
- Our allegiance is for the one who has taken the Quran as his methodology and way.
- Our allegiance is for the one who works for the ruling by the *Shari'ah*, calls for its establishment, and acts upon it diligently to give it strength between the people.
- Our allegiance is for the one who raises the flag of Islam, stands for its spreading in all lands and carries its concern. Thus teaching the people *tawhid* and warning them from *shirk* in order for them to worship Allah, the Most Forgiving, the Grateful, so that they destroy the *shirk* of graves and palaces.
- Our allegiance is to the one who left lands, friends, family, and countries to support the One, *ad-Dayyan* (the One who recompenses); so he supported the *mujahidin* in every area, supported them in Iraq, Chechnya, Somalia, Mali, and in al-Maghrib, Turkistan, and in the Arabian Peninsula and Afghanistan, and in Palestine and Sham.
- Our allegiance is for the one who migrated to defend the lands of Islam with his spearhead and speech; so he protected the nation of Islam, rescued babies that were still breast-fed and the crooked old men and gave everything dear and precious to him for regaining the captured al-Aqsa.
- Our allegiance is for the believer who who strives with his life and wealth so that the oppressed can live and the rights of the oppressed can be returned to them; thus he went into the pain of death in their defense, he attacked and wandered around under the bombing, so that brothers and sisters are not thrown into prisons and Muslims humiliated.
- Our allegiance is to every *mumin mujahid* in the path of Allah, who sees what

has occurred to the Islamic Ummah from killing, bombing, destruction, demolition of the women and children, and was not pleased with his condition nor could he find pleasure in food and drink, so he fled to rescue them in response to the statement of *al-'Aziz, al-Wahhab*:

اِنْفِرُوا خِفَافًا وَثِقَالًا وَجَاهُدُوا بِأَمْوَالِكُمْ وَأَنْفُسِكُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ

**“Go forth, whether light or heavy, and strive with your wealth and your lives in the cause of Allah.”<sup>6</sup>**

And fearful that he falls into the punishment mentioned in the statement:

إِلَّا تَنْفِرُوا يُعَذِّبُكُمْ عَذَابًا أَلِيمًا

**“If you do not go forth, He will punish you with a painful punishment.”<sup>7</sup>**

- Our allegiance is to the believer who rejected democracy that idolized man and is in contradiction to the ruling belonging to Allah alone. So whoever wages war against democracy, which violates the Quran and Sunnah, we ally with him, support and love him, place our hand with his, open our hearts and homes for him, and extend to him our hands.

## **Al-Bara:**

The origin of loyalty is love and the origin of enmity is hate, from them stem actions of the heart and limbs that enter individuals into true loyalty or enmity, actions like aiding, supporting, *jihad*, *hijrah*, etc. Indeed, *wala* and *bara* are a necessary part of the statement '*la ilaha illallah*'. *Wala* is rooted in love and support, while *bara* is rooted in hatred and enmity. So whoever loves the believers but does not aid or support them against their enemies, he does not have true loyalty for them. Likewise, those who hate the disbelievers, hypocrites, and apostates, but does not have enmity towards them have not

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<sup>6</sup> Surah at-Tawbah: 41.

<sup>7</sup> Surah at-Tawbah: 39.

truly disassociated from them. He (*ta'ala*) said:

قَدْ كَانَتْ لَكُمْ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ فِي إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ إِذْ قَالُوا لِقَوْمِهِمْ  
إِنَّا بُرَآءُ مِنْكُمْ وَمِمَّا تَعْبُدُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ كَفَرْنَا بِكُمْ وَبَدَا بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمْ  
الْعَدَاوَةُ وَالْبَغْضَاءُ أَبَدًا حَتَّىٰ تُؤْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَحْدَهُ

**“There has already been for you an excellent pattern in Ibrahim and those with him, when they said to their people: ‘Indeed, we are disassociated from you and from whatever you worship other than Allah. We have denied you, and there has appeared between us and you animosity and hatred forever until you believe in Allah alone.’”<sup>8</sup>**

And He (*ta'ala*) said:

لَا يَتَّخِذِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الْكَافِرِينَ أَوْلَيَاءَ مِنْ دُونِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَمَنْ يَفْعَلْ ذَلِكَ  
فَلَيْسَ مِنَ اللَّهِ فِي شَيْءٍ إِنَّا أَنَّ شَتَّقُوا مِنْهُمْ تُقاَهُ وَيُحَذِّرُكُمُ اللَّهُ نَفْسَهُ  
وَإِلَى اللَّهِ الْمَصِيرُ

**“Let not believers take disbelievers as allies rather than believers. And whoever [of you] does that has nothing with Allah, except when taking precaution against them in prudence. And Allah warns you of Himself, and to Allah is the [final] destination.”<sup>9</sup>**

And He (*ta'ala*) said:

أَتَجِدُ قَوْمًا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ يُوَادُونَ مَنْ حَادَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَلَوْ  
كَانُوا آبَاءَهُمْ أَوْ أَبْنَاءَهُمْ

<sup>8</sup> Surah al-Mumtahanah: 4.

<sup>9</sup> Surah Al 'Imran: 28.

**“You will not find a people who believe in Allah and the Last Day having affection for those who oppose Allah and His messenger, even if they were their fathers or their sons...”<sup>10</sup>**

It is mentioned in the *tafsir* of this *ayah* that is referring to Abu ‘Ubaydah ibn al-Jarrah when he killed his father during the Battle of Badr.

And He (*ta‘ala*) said:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَّخِذُوا الَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا دِينَكُمْ هُرُوًّا وَلَعِبًا مِّنَ الَّذِينَ  
أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ وَالْكُفَّارُ أَوْلَيَاءٌ

**“O you who have believed, take not those who have taken your *din* in ridicule and amusement among the ones who were given the Book before you nor the disbelievers as allies.”<sup>11</sup>**

And He (*ta‘ala*) said:

تَرَى كَثِيرًا مِّنْهُمْ يَتَوَلَّونَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَبِسْنَ مَا قَدَّمْتُ لَهُمْ أَنفُسُهُمْ  
أَن سَخَطَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ وَفِي الْعَذَابِ هُمْ خَالِدُونَ

**“You see many of them allying with those who disbelieved. How wretched is that which they have put forth for themselves in that Allah has become angry with them, and in the punishment they will abide eternally.”<sup>12</sup>**

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<sup>10</sup> Surah al-Mujadalah: 22.

<sup>11</sup> Surah al-Maidah: 57.

<sup>12</sup> Surah al-Maidah: 80.

And He (*ta'ala*) said regarding to the disbelievers in general:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَخَذُوا عَدُوّي وَعَدُوّكُمْ أَوْلِيَاءَ تُلْقُونَ إِلَيْهِم  
بِالْمَوَدَّةِ

**“O you who have believed, do not take My enemies and your enemies as allies, extending to them affection...”<sup>13</sup>**

Even more than that, Allah has forbidden having loyalty towards the disbelievers even if they have close familial ties. He (*ta'ala*) said:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَخَذُوا آبَاءَكُمْ وَإِخْوَانَكُمْ أَوْلِيَاءَ إِنْ اسْتَحْبُوا الْكُفَّارَ  
عَلَى الِإِيمَانِ وَمَنْ يَتَوَلَّهُمْ مِنْكُمْ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ

**“O you who have believed, do not take your fathers or your brothers as allies if they have preferred disbelief over belief. And whoever does so among you - then it is those who are the *dhalimun* (oppressive disbelievers).<sup>14</sup>**

And He (*ta'ala*) said:

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِغُصْنِهِمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَغْضٍ إِلَّا تَفْعَلُوهُ تَكُنْ فِتْنَةٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ  
وَفَسَادٌ كَبِيرٌ

**“And those who disbelieved are allies of one another. If you do not do so, there will be *fitnah* on earth and great corruption.”<sup>15</sup>**

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<sup>13</sup> Surah al-Mumtahanah: 1.

<sup>14</sup> Surah at-Tawbah: 23.

<sup>15</sup> Surah al-Anfal: 73.

So Allah (*ta'ala*) has tied loyalty between believers and cut off loyalty between believers and disbelievers. And He informed us that disbelievers are allies of one another. If this does not occur then much discord and corruption would befall. Is it possible that the *din* be complete or to establish the knowledge of *jihad* or the knowledge of commanding good and forbidding evil except with love for the sake of Allah and hatred for the sake of Allah and enmity for the sake of Allah and loyalty for the sake of Allah?

If people are in agreement on one way and have love without enmity or hate, there would not be a distinction between *haqq* (truth) and *batil* (falsehood) nor between the believers and disbelievers nor between the allies of *ar-Rahman* and the allies of the *Shaytan*.

In sum: we should revert to the pure belief that is exemplified through correcting the understanding of the word of *tawhid* and correcting the understanding of *'ibadah* as being a way of life, and raising the new generation based on the book of Allah and the Sunnah and removing what remains of the ideological invasion, as well and deepening the concept of *wala* and *bara* in the hearts of the people, and to stress the concept of enmity between the group of Allah and the group of the *Shaytan*, and to arouse the expectation that victory from Allah is coming soon. And Allah (*ta'ala*) knows best and is the wisest.

May the *salah* and *salam* of Allah be upon our prophet Muhammad, his family, and his companions altogether.



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Publications